

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 MC-02 IGA-02 AID-20 SAJ-01

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 100137

P R 051352Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECDEF WASHDC//ISA(SA)/DSAA//

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0444

USCINCEUR//ECJ4/7-SAOCD//

CSA WASHDC

S E C R E T KUWAIT 3280

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT AIR DEFENSE/IHAWK

REF: KUWAIT 3273 (DTG 050651Z AUG 74) (S)

1. ON 4AUG74, COL COX ATTENDED A MEETING WITH THE KUWAIT AIR FORCE (KAF) DEPCMDR, COL SUMAIT AND OTHER STAFF OFFICERS CONCERNING THE OVERALL KUWAIT AIR DEFENSE PROGRAM WITH THE DECISION REPORTED IN REFTEL AS THE STARTING POINT OF THE DISCUSSION. SEVERAL SUBJECTS WERE COVERED, WHICH ARE RELATED BELOW. FOREMOST, IT APPEARS THAT THE DESIRES OF THE PRIME MINISTER/CROWN PRINCE TO GET THE SYSTEM IN BEING (AS REPORTED IN REFTEL) ARE NOW DEFINITELY KNOWN AND THE PRESSURE IS BEING FELT AT KUWAIT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND LOWER LEVELS. THE THRUST OF THE DISCUSSION (MORE AN EXPOSITION ON COL SMUAIT'S PART) WAS A STATEMENT OF WHAT MUST BE DONE AND A STATEMENT THAT THEY NOW CLEARLY AND FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE POSITION OF THE USG AS A HELPFUL FRIEND WILLING TO ASSIST THEM AND THAT USG LAWS WOULD NEITHER ALLOW A PROFIT NOR A LOSS IN MATTERS OF PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE GOK. (IF THEIR REAL UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION IS AS CLEAR AS THEIR

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EXPOSITION OF IT, PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE).

2. KEY KAF PERSONNEL AND THE MINDEF NOW APPEAR TO RECOGNIZE THAT THEY HAVE NEITHER THE CONTRACTUAL AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE NOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF ENGINEERING, TRAINING AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENTS TO MANAGE A PROGRAM OF THE MAGNITUDE AND COMPLEXITY OF THEIR IHAWK/AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. (WE AGREE.) WHILE THE RAYTHEON PROPOSAL IS VIEWED WITH FAVOR IN THE AREAS THAT IT ENCOMPASSES, THEY RECOGNIZE THE AREAS THAT IT DOES NOT COVER AND APPRECIATE THE PROBLEMS THEY WOULD HAVE IN ATTEMPTING TO COMPLETE THEIR OVERALL SYSTEM WITH SEPARATE GOK TO CONTRACTOR ARRANGEMENTS. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN ARE COMMAND AND CONTROL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A KUWAITI OPERATED TECHNICAL TRAINING CAPABILITY TO SUPPORT THEIR ENTIRE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. IN ADDITION, OTHER MATTERS WHICH IMPACT ON THE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM SUCH AS HAWK SITE LOCATIONS, POLICY ON PERSONNEL SUPPORT FACILITIES, LOCATION OF CENTRAL MAINTENANCE FACILITY, HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CONSTRUCTION (PARTICULARLY UTILITIES) POLICIES WERE IDENTIFIED AND WILL BE ADDRESSED BY THE KAF IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. THE KAF SPECIFICALLY DESIRES THE RAYTHEON PACKAGE PROPOSAL WITH SOME ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS. IN ADDITION, AS PART OF ONE OVERALL COUNTRY TO COUNTRY AGREEMENT (LETTER OF OFFER), THEY DESIRE:

A. AN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM WHICH INTEGRATES BOTH FIGHTER AIR DEFENSE AND GROUND-TO-AIR MISSILE AIR DEFENSE, INCLUDING THE AN/TSQ-73 (OR EQUIVALENT) AND GCI OPERATOR CONSOLES, DISPLAYS, ETC AS APPROPRIATE;

B. TRAINING OF OPERATORS AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL ON THE COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM DESCRIBED ABOVE; AND

C. LOGISTIC SUPPORT OF THE ENTIRE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM AND ALL EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH IT EXCLUDING ONLY AIRCRAFT.

4. A MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED ON OR ABOUT 1OCT74 TO MAKE THE FINAL REVIEW OF THE RAYTHEON PACKAGE, AVAILABILITY OF TRAINEES AND, HOPEFULLY, THE COORDINATION OF OTHER ELEMENTS SUCH AS THE TSQ-73, AFFECTING THE OVERALL AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. ALSO, KAF OFFICIALS HOPE TO HAVE SOME POLICY DECISIONS ON THE OTHER MATTERS MENTIONED IN PARA 2.

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5. WHILE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE APPEARS TO BE PREPARED TO DRAW DOWN ON THEIR TOTAL ARMED FORCE (ALL 8000 OF THEM), IT DOES NOT RPT NOT APPEAR THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ENOUGH TRAINABLE KUWAIT MANPOWER (APPROXIMATELY 600 TRAINEES) TO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM IN THE TIME FRAME WHICH THEY CONSIDER MANDATORY. IT SHOULD BE NOTED IN THIS REGARD THAT THE RAYTHEON TRAINING PLAN IS PREDICATED UPON AS LITTLE AS SIX YEARS TO MAXIMUM OF NINE YEARS

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AS THE PREREQUISITE FOR ASSIGNMENT TO THE PROGRAM. THIS SITUATION REFLECTS THE OVERALL LITERACY/EDUCATION SITUATION IN THE KAF AND WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE FIRM GOK DESIRE TO MAKE THIS A KUWAITI AIR DEFENSE AS CONTRASTED WITH A SYSTEM MANAGED BY NON-RESIDENT ALIENS. AT THIS TIME, ESTIMATES ARE STILL FAIRLY CRUDE, HOWEVER, A SHORTFALL, BY KAF ESTIMATES, OF 200 APPEARS LIKELY.

6. IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY THAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DECREED AS MANDATORY, THE KAF IS PLANNING TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN TRAINING SCHOOL TO BE STAFFED BY KUWAITIS TO TRAIN THE PERSONNEL FOR THEIR ENTIRE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM, EXCEPTING ONLY AIRCRAFT. THIS SCHOOL WILL COVER ALL OPERATOR AND MAINTENANCE SKILLS REQUIRED. KAF OFFICIALS HAVE REQUESTED RAYTHEON TO INCLUDE THIS SCHOOL, WITH ALL REQUIRED FACILITIES AND ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT, ETC IN THEIR TRAINING PROGRAM.

7. THE FOREGOING, WHILE LEADING TO A LONG TERM SOLUTION, WILL NOT HELP IN THE SHORT RANGE. FOR THIS PERIOD, THE KAF INTENDS TO USE SOME CIVILIAN (CONTRACT) TECHNICIANS, (PRIMARILY AT THE HIGHER LEVELS OF MAINTENANCE) AND TO RECOMMEND TO THE MINDEF, THAT HE REQUEST SOME ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF MILITARY TECHNICAL ADVISORS/INSTRUCTORS, PREFERABLY FROM THE US. COL SUMAIT STATED THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD USG VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT OF UNIFORMS AND THAT THEY BELIEVED THAT THIS MATTER WAS MANAGEABLE, CITING THE PRESENCE OF VARIOUS UNIFORMED MILITARY PERSONNEL IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY EGYPT, AS EVIDENCE THAT THE MATTER WAS NO LONGER OF GREAT POLITICAL SENSITIVITY. WHILE WE ARE SOMEWHAT RELUCTANT TO PREDICT WHETHER OR NOT THE GOK WILL ACCEDE TO THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE KAF TO REQUEST US MILITVNRV INSTRUCTORS/ TECHNICAL ADVISORS, IT APPEARS TO BE A PLAUSIBLE COURSE OF EVENTS.

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8. THE ALTERNATIVES, AS THE KAF VIEW THE MATTER, ARE DEPENDENCE UPON CONTRACT MAINTENANCE, WHICH THEY CONSIDER UNACCEPTABLE (THEY VIEW THIS AS ONE OF THEIR MAJOR CURRENT WEAKNESSES), OR OPENING THE PROGRAM TO THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS, WHICH IS ALSO VIEWED WITH STRONG DISFAVOR. THE POLICY APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SET AT A HIGH LEVEL THAT THIS WILL BE A KUWAITI, NOT A MERCENARY FORCE.

9. THE KAF RECOGNIZES THAT US SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONTROL OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WILL HAVE TO BE MET. IN THIS REGARD, COL COX BRIEFED THEM ON THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE TECHNICAL SECURITY AGREEMENT WHICH IS UNDERSTOOD TO BE ENROUTE AT THE PRESENT TIME. NO PROBLEMS ARE FORESEEN ON THIS POINT.

10. AT THE REQUEST OF THE KAF, THE RAYTHEON PROGRAM MANAGER, MR

MCCARTHY, HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE GOK DESIRES AND ADVISED NOT TO BRING THEIR LEGAL FINANCIAL NEGOTIATING TEAM TO KUWAIT. MR MCCARTHY EXPRESSED HIS DISAPPOINTMENT AT THIS TURN OF EVENTS, BUT ASSURED US THAT RAYTHEON WOULD CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH THE USG AND THE GOK.

11. IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW LETTER OF OFFER BE PREPARED WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY A BASIC ORDERING AGREEMENT WITH ABOUT 12 LINE ITEMS WITH ESTIMATED COSTS GENEROUS ENOUGH TO COVER ANTICIPATED PRICE INCREASES AND KNOWN ADD-ONS. WITH YOUR APPROVAL, A DRAFT LETTER OF THIS FORM (WITHOUT FINANCIAL INFORMATION) WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE GOK.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, SALES, NEGOTIATIONS, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT03280
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740213-0141
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740874/aaaac1wh.tel
Line Count: 182
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KUWAIT 3273 (DTG 050651Z AUG 74) (S)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAIT AIR DEFENSE/IHAWK
TAGS: MASS, KU, US
To: DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005